

BOARD OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
April 12, 2007

The Board of Community Health held its regularly scheduled meeting in the Floyd Room, 20th Floor, West Tower, Twin Towers Building, 200 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia. Board members attending were Ross Mason, Vice Chairman; Mark Oshnock, Secretary; Dr. Inman C. "Buddy" English; Frank Jones and Richard Robinson. Commissioner Meadows was also present. Mr. Cook, Ms. Gay, Mr. Holmes and Dr. Parker were absent. (A list of Attendees and Agenda are attached hereto and made official parts of these Minutes as Attachments # 1 and # 2).

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Mason called the meeting to order at 10:44 a.m. The Minutes of the March 12, 2007 meeting were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AND ADOPTED.

Chairman's Comments

Mr. Mason said members of the Executive Committee met on March 29 and had a lengthy discussion about how the Board could be more effective and achieve its mission and objectives. He said the Executive Committee will report back to the full Board as it gathers materials and prepares this information for the board's review and discussion. Mr. Mason asked Dr. Meadows for the Commissioner's report.

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Meadows said the Department would give an update on the budget as a whole as well as the Medicaid, PeachCare and State Health Benefit Plan budgets, and an update on the Department's legislation as well as other legislation that will impact the Department. In addition she updated the Board on a key operational issue. She said earlier in the week she e-mailed the board about a data breach. In the e-mail she included a copy of the public notice that was sent about the loss of a compact disc, confirmed by ACS, the department's fiscal agent, the potential impact and corrective actions taken. She said all appropriate state and federal regulatory agencies had been notified, in addition to notifying the members and public-at-large through the public notice. From this point on what the Department has planned is for ACS to send out a formal notice to each member potentially impacted. The Department will investigate the sequence of events leading to the data breach. In addition, ACS will launch its own investigation.

Committee Reports

Mr. Mason called for committee reports. Ms. Kathy Driggers, DCH Chief of Managed Care and Quality, gave the Care Management Committee report on behalf of Ms. Gay. She said the Committee heard a report by Dr. Dev Nair and Adriane Saunders, the Clinical and Quality Directors for the Managed Care Division, on the clinical and quality contractual requirements of the CMOs as well as the division's monitoring of their performance. In addition, the Committee reviewed the regular monthly reports—enrollment (month-over-month), capitation payments and claims payments reports.

Mr. Oshnock reported that the Audit Committee covered the initial impact of the data breach and the Department's financial control environment. He said the Audit Committee discussed the process of the financial audit for 2007, post retirement benefits and some of the related accounting, reporting, and economic issues for the State. At the next meeting the Board will consider a resolution relative to the legal and fund accounting around this issue.

Department Updates – Chief, Medical Assistance Plans

Mr. Mason asked Mark Trail, Chief, Medical Assistance Plans, for his update. Mr. Trail began discussion on the Mental Retardation Waiver Program (MRWP) and Community Habilitation and Support Services (CHSS) Public Notice. At the March meeting the Board voted to approve this public notice to be published for public comment. The notice provides for a rate change for case management services in the MRWP/CHSS, effective April 1, and will change the case management Per Member Per Month (PMPM) payments from \$125 PMPM to \$136.88 PMPM. A public hearing was held on March 27 and no one came to offer comments and no written comments were received. He asked the Board's favorable approval of this public notice. Mr. Oshnock MADE a MOTION to approve the Mental Retardation Waiver Program and Community Habilitation and Support Services Public Notice. Dr. English SECONDED the MOTION. Mr. Mason called for votes; votes were taken. The MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. (A copy of the Mental Retardation Waiver Program and Community Habilitation and Support Services Public Notice is attached hereto and made an official part of these Minutes as Attachment # 3).

Mr. Trail continued with an overview of the Community Mental Health Services Public Notice. This notice modifies the payment method and rate for Intensive Family Intervention (IFI) Services within the Community Mental Health Services. The IFI rates are based on FY 2006 service costs and utilization and are stratified according to professional and paraprofessional services. The current statewide \$20.11 fee-for-service rate per 15 minutes will be changed to pay IFI professionals \$31.85

per 15 minutes and IFI paraprofessionals \$20.93 per 15 minutes. The changes will be cost neutral in the context of all services provided in the Community Mental Health Services Program. Mr. Trail addressed questions from the Board. Dr. English MADE a MOTION to approve the Community Mental Health Services Public Notice to be published for public comment. Mr. Jones SECONDED the MOTION. Mr. Mason called for votes; votes were taken. The MOTION was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. (A copy of the Community Mental Health Services Public Notice is attached hereto and made an official part of these Minutes as Attachment # 4).

Department Updates – Chief Financial Officer

Carie Summers, Chief Financial Officer, gave an update on the budget as it makes its way through the appropriations process. Changes made by the House and Senate Conference Committee to the Governor's original Amended FY 2007 budget recommendations include about a \$4 million addition to the Governor's recommendation for the pre-fund projected for the FY 2008 Medicaid expenses; \$5.5 million addition to the Governor's recommendation to provide for state fund match for DSH funds for private hospitals; over \$8 million addition to cover the state share of PeachCare growth; and \$14 million net reduction in state funding over the Governor's recommendation to replace the loss of prior year funds for administrative services and the loss of one-time UPL funds. Eliminations include \$39,565 for the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners and \$148,662 for Administration staffing. The Conference Committee agreed on language to the Appropriations Act that would give the department the flexibility to utilize Medicaid funds in the Aged, Blind, and Disabled program to temporarily cover the state fiscal year 2007 federal fund deficit in the PeachCare Program. The Department is required to utilize the current budget amendment process to utilize this flexibility. In summary, these changes are a \$2.9 million increase over the Governor's recommendations. Ms. Summers said the FY 2008 budget passed out of the House Appropriations Committee today. She concluded her report after addressing questions from the Board. (A copy the FY 2007 Amended Budget – HB 94 Memorandum is attached hereto and made an official part of these minutes as Attachment # 5).

Department Updates – Legislative Affairs Director

Carrie Downing, Legislative Affairs Director, gave an update on 2007 legislation. Three of the Department's bills crossed over: HB 551, SB 212 and SB 172. House Bills 628 and 550 did not cross over; however, the language is in the process of being attached to alternative vehicles. Thirteen bills pertaining to PeachCare were proposed but only one crossed over--House Bill 340. This bill would lower the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) from 235 percent to 200, gives the Board of Community Health the authority to move the FPL between 185 and 215 percent, puts citizenship and income verification in the statute and provides dental and vision as optional services for additional premiums. Eleven Certificate of Need bills were introduced but none crossed over. There are five days remaining in the Session. After addressing questions from the Board, Ms. Downing concluded her report.

Department Updates – Chief Operating Officer

Debbie Hall, Chief Operating Officer, gave a brief overview of the health initiatives programs—Office of Women's Health, the Commission on Men's Health, the Office of Minority Health, the Office of Rural Health, and the Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program (GVHCP). She introduced the Director of the GVHCP Pauline Lindstrom. Ms. Lindstrom said in 2005 House Bill 166 was passed to increase access to quality medical and dental care to uninsured and low-income Georgians and increase volunteerism by providing sovereign immunity protection to licensed healthcare professionals. Ms. Lindstrom reviewed requirements for a volunteer healthcare professional and requirements for a patient to be eligible for this program. The goal of the GVHCP is to work with existing free clinics, contract with licensed volunteer healthcare professionals, associations and corporations, designate and train volunteers, and encourage community and faith-based organizations to sponsor clinics. Staff consists of the program director and six regional coordinators. In August 2006, the GVHCP opened its first clinic and has since established 22 additional clinics around the state. Ms. Lindstrom concluded her report after addressing questions from the Board concerning requirements for volunteers, estimated emergency room savings, and the GVHCP operating budget. (A copy of the Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program presentation is attached hereto and made an official part of these minutes as Attachment # 6).

New Business

Mr. Mason said the Executive Committee tasked him with the creation of metrics for performance measures. He said he will e-mail this information to the Board.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board at the meeting Mr. Mason adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

THESE MINUTES ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS THE _____
DAY OF _____, 2007.

RICHARD L. HOLMES
Chairman

ATTEST TO:

MARK D. OSHNOCK
Secretary

Official Attachments:

- #1 List of Attendees
- #2 Agenda
- #3 MRWP and CHSS Public Notice
- #4 Community Mental Health Services Public Notice
- #5 FY 2007 Amended Budget – HB 94 Memorandum
- #6 Georgia Volunteer Health Care Program presentation